I.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

LLANGOLLEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year ended December 1967

J. Gareth M. Williams,
Medical Officer of Health

H. G. Fawcett,
Public Health Inspector.

November 1968.

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LLANGOLLEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1967.

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the Urban District for 1967.

Notification of Infectious Diseases continues to remain very low. No major outbreak occurred during the year.

The birth rate increased as compared to last year. This is contrary to the general trend in England and Wales. All the births took place in hospital.

There was a fall in the number of deaths and it is especially pleasing to record that for the second year in succession there were no deaths of infants under the age of one year.

As usual I would wish to record my thanks to all my collegues on the Council staff for their excellent co-operation and also to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee for their kindness throughout the year.

Fel arfer dymunaf fynegi fy niolch i'm cyd-swyddogion ar staff y Cyngor am eu cyd-weithrediad gwych a hefyd i Gadeirydd ac Aelodau'r Pwyllgor Iechyd a Thai am eu caredigrwydd drwy gydol y flwyddyn.

J. Gareth M. Williams.

Swyddog Meddygol
Medical Officer of Health.

I. GENERAL STATISTICS etc.

Area of District in acres	3,107
Registrar General's estimate of Population..	2,940
Number of Inhabited houses	1,168
Rateable Value of the District as at 1st October 1967.....	£103,949
Sum represented by product of a Penny Rate for the year ended 31st March 1967....	£409:4s:9.8695d.

POPULATION.

The estimated mid-year population of 2940 shows a decrease of 40 as compared with 1966. This is the second successive year to show a decrease (The 1965 figure was 3010).

II. VITAL STATISTICS.

1. LIVE BIRTHS.

The total number of 48 is made up of 23 male and 25 female births. 3 illegitimate births are included. The total of 48 shows an increase over both 1966(41) and 1965(42).

All the births took place in hospital.

2. STILL BIRTHS.

A total number of 3 still births occurred after two successive years with none recorded. This gives a still birth rate of 59 per 1,000 births. The still birth rate for England and Wales generally is the lowest ever recorded at 14.7 per 1,000 births.

3. BIRTH RATE (Comparability factor 1.16)

The birth rate was 16.3 and when adjusted for comparison with England and Wales generally comes to 18.9 which is higher than the 1966 figure of 15.96. This is in reverse to the national trend which has evolved in recent years when the birth rate has fallen steadily since 1964.

In 1967 in fact the England and Wales birth rate was 17.2 as compared with 17.7 in 1966, 18.1 in 1965 and 18.4 in 1964.

4. DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered was 32 (16 male: 16 female) - a decrease as compared with 1966 (42) and 1965 (40).

The following table divides the deaths into age-groups

Age Groups	Males	Females.
25 - 34 years	Nil	1
35 - 44 years	Nil	Nil
45 - 54 years	Nil	1
55 - 64 years	3	2
65 - 74 years	6	3
75 years and over	7	9
Totals	16	16

As can be seen only two deaths occurred below the age of 55 years.

5. CAUSES OF DEATH (1966 figures in brackets.)

Diseases of heart and circulation	14	(21)
Cancer	11	(8)
Diseases of Respiratory system	4	(8)
Accidental causes	2	(Nil)
Infective diseases	1	(Nil)
	32	

There was a significant fall in deaths both from cardiac and respiratory causes which accounts mainly for the lower total this year as compares with 1966. There was however a corresponding increase as can be seen in cancer deaths three of which were cancer of the lung.

Of the cardiac deaths 8 were the result of coronary disease. This has for several years now been a major cause of death in Britain and other "affluent" countries and the annual incidence is steadily increasing. Of the respiratory deaths only one was attributable to bronchitis and one to pneumonia as compared to 5 and 3 respectively in 1966.

6. INFANT DEATHS (under the age of 1 year)

For the second successive year no infant deaths occurred. The figure for England and Wales also (12.5 per 1,000 births) is the lowest ever recorded, (as with the still birth rate). These record figures reflect not only the improving maternity services but also the rise in living standards generally, as they are both sensitive indicators of these standards.

The British figures however are still well behind some of the other European countries particularly Sweden, Norway, Denmark and the Netherlands where living standards are also generally acknowledged to be higher.

7. DEATH RATE (Comparability factor 0.9)

The crude death rate of 10.9 when adjusted for comparison with England and Wales comes to 9.8. This is lower than the England and Wales figure of 11.2 and also considerably lower than the 1966 adjusted rate for Llangollen Urban District of 12.7.

8. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Two cases of Measles were notified during the year. No other case of infectious disease was notified. It will be recalled that in 1966 no notifications at all were received.

9. IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION (1966 figures in brackets)

a) Diptheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.
The following table summarises the number of persons immunised according to age groups:

YEAR of BIRTH	DIPTHERIA		WHOOPING COUGH		TETANUS	
	Primary	Boosters	Primary	Boosters	Primary	Boosters
1967	6 (9)	- (-)	6 (9)	- (-)	6 (9)	- (-)
1966	26 (35)	2 (5)	26 (35)	2 (5)	26 (35)	2 (5)
1965	2 (-)	8 (39)	2 (-)	8 (39)	2 (-)	8 (39)
1964	- (-)	2 (10)	- (-)	2 (10)	- (-)	2 (10)
1960-63	1 (1)	28 (58)	1 (1)	18 (49)	1 (1)	28 (57)
1950-59	2 (-)	36 (46)	2 (-)	4 (10)	2 (-)	4 (19)
Totals	37 (45)	76 (158)	37 (45)	34 (113)	37 (45)	44 (130)

As can be seen the booster columns show a substantial drop as compared with 1966.

b) Poliomyelitis.

Year of Birth	Primary Courses	Boosters
1967	4 (2)	- (-)
1966	19 (29)	- (-)
1965	7 (4)	2 (4)
1964	- (4)	- (1)
1960-1963	5 (7)	44 (71)
1950-1959	8 (2)	57 (1)
Others	3 (12)	2 (2)
TOTALS	46 (60)	105 (79)

c) Smallpox.

Age at date of vaccination	PRIMARY vaccination	Re-vaccination
0 - 12 months	4 (3)	- (-)
1 - 2 year	18 (22)	- (-)
2 - 4 years	1 (5)	- (-)
5 - 14 years	2 (2)	- (6)
Over 15 yrs.	1 (7)	16 (10)
Totals	26 (39)	16 (16)

The comparatively lower figures in the primary columns are due to the fact that in 1966 there was an extra incentive to the public for vaccination because of the outbreak then in South Wales and the Midlands of a minor form of Smallpox.

The 1967 figures therefore have merely reverted back to normal.

10. CHIROPODY SERVICE (1966 figures in brackets)

No. on Register at 31.12.67	No of sessions held in 1967	Total attendances	No on waiting list at 31.12.67
100 (97)	72 (77)	402 (427)	Nil (2)

SIGNED J. GARETH M. WILLIAMS

Medical Officer of Health
Swyddog Meddygol.

November 1968.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Sanitary inspections.

The following is a statement of the number and nature of inspections made during the year, under the various Acts, Orders and Byelaws within the area:

Housing matters - first visit	30
second visit	22
Dangerous structures	2
Nuisances - first visit	5
second visit	3
Water Supply	5
Disinfestations and disinfections	2
Drains, cesspools and privies	13
Food premises	9
Factories	3
Schools	1
Scavenging and disposal	52
New Buildings and alterations	86
Markets	6
Miscellaneous	14
	253

Summary of Notices served

	Informal	Formal	Remedied
Dwelling houses structural defects	2	-	2
Nuisances	3	-	3
Water Supply (private supplies)	1	-	1
Drainage	21	-	16

Water Supply

Number of dwelling houses supplied direct to house by mains	1,062
Population of dwellinghouses supplied direct to house by mains	2,790
Number of dwellinghouses supplied by means of standpipes	35
Population of dwellinghouses supplied by means of standpipes	75
Number of dwellinghouses supplied from private supply	71
Population of dwellinghouses supplied by private supply	150

The following reports indicate quality of the water supply:

Number of samples sent to the Public Health Laboratory	
Mains supply	2
Private supplies	6
Number returned "Highly Satisfactory"	
Mains supply	2
Private supplies	3
Number returned "Unsatisfactory"	
Private supplies	3

Chemical Analysis of Public Supply.

Appearance	clear, no deposit colour: less than 5 Hazen units
Odour	nil
Reaction, pH	7.05
	parts per million
Total solids	142
Nitrogen as free & Saline ammonia	0.03
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.02
Nitrogen as nitrites	trace
Nitrogen as Nitrates	less than 0.5
Chlorides, as Cl	16
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C	1.3
Total hardness	70
Temporary hardness	42
Permanent hardness	28
Alkalinity	42
Free Chlorine	-
Potassium, as K	1.8
Anionic synthetic detergents	-
Manganese, as Mn	-
Cyanides and thiocyanates	-
Poisonous metals	nil
Total residual chlorine	0.15
Free available chlorine	less than 0.1

Opinion: The chemical condition of this water is satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The results of samples taken by the Dee and Clwyd River Authority indicate that the quality of the effluent from the sewage disposal works is satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse collection is carried out by direct labour, all premises except for outlying houses receive a weekly collection.

The outlying premises receive a fortnightly collection.

The method of disposal is by controlled tipping at the Council's refuse tip at Wenffrwd.

Business premises especially catering establishments may have additional collections based on a fixed charge, there is also a charge for persons transporting their own trade waste to the refuse tip for disposal by the Council.

The Local Planning Authority has granted consent to the use of additional land for tipping adjacent to the existing disposal site at Wenffrwd. Negotiations to purchase the land have also been commenced.

HOUSING.

Sixteen dwelling houses were erected by private enterprise during the year.

With the occupation of four three-bedroom flats early in the year the contract for the erection of 23 flats at Maes Pengwern was completed.

The Council now have under construction thirty-three three-bedroom houses at Maes Pengwern.

STANDARD AND DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The Council approved one application for Standard Improvement Grant and three applications for Discretionary Improvement Grant during the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council have one trained rodent operator who gives part of his time to this service. Two comprehensive sewer treatments were carried out successfully during the year and numerous minor treatments were given to infestations of both rats and mice in private houses.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are six caravans sited on one farm and one on another farm in the area for which a licence has been granted under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

There is no organised camping site in the area and during the summer months scores of tents are set up in fields around the Town. Some parties are well organised and orderly but a few are unruly and tend to give tenting a bad reputation.

In July the Cheshire and North Wales Centre of the Caravan Club held a Rally in the area. The organisation was excellent and the Club are hoping to make it an annual event.

FOOD INSPECTIONS.

Nine visits have been made to premises where food is prepared and sold for human consumption.

The standard of cleanliness and management is well maintained.

The following table gives details of the foodstuffs which have been condemned as unfit during the year.

	cwt.	lbs.
Canned meats	1.	85
Other canned foods	2.	39
Other foods	1.	14.
	5.	26

ICE CREAM.

30 premises are registeredunder the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of prepacked Ice cream only.

Periodic visits are made to ensure that the premises and apparatus conform with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act.

MARKETS

Weekly auction sales have been held in the market throughout the year except during the period when it was closed due to the Foot and Mouth Disease Epidemic.

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963 - SCHEDULE.

Registrations and General Inspections.

Class of premises	Number of premises registered during Year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	-	18	-
Retail shops	-	30	1
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	-	3	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.	1	12	7
TOTALS	1	63	10

Total number of visits of all kinds to registered premises under the Act ..... 10.

FACTORIES

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

	No. on Register	NUMBER OF		
		Inspections	Written notices	occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	2	-	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	22	3	Nil	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	2	-	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	26	3	Nil	Nil

Cases in which defects were remedied.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H. M. Inspector.
Want of cleanliness	Nil	Nil	-
Unreasonable temperature	Nil	Nil	-
Inadequate ventilation	Nil	Nil	-
Overcrowding.	Nil	Nil	-

Yours obediently,

(SIGNED) H. G. FAWCETT

Public Health Inspector.